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Application No. 10/695,590

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Customer ID 25207

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) An alarm system, comprising:

a motion detector to detect motion in a desired area;

a safety detector to detect a safety condition;

a transmitter to transmit a communication to a person in a form perceivable by the person;

and

a processor functionally connected to the motion detector, the safety detector and the transmitter, and, in response to the safety detector detecting the safety condition, to cause the transmitter to transmit a first said communication to the person in the form perceivable by the person, and, in response to the motion detector detecting motion, to cause the transmitter to perform at least one of transmitting a second said communication to the person in the form perceivable by the person or ceasing transmission of the first said communication.

35. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 34 wherein the transmitter transmits a tone for at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

36. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 34 wherein the transmitter transmits a plurality of tones for at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

37. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 34 and further comprising:
a receiver to receive an alarm signal from a remote safety device which detects a safety condition; and

wherein the processor is also functionally connected to the receiver, and, in response to the receiver receiving the alarm signal, the processor causes the transmitter to transmit at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

38. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 34 and further comprising:
a receiver to receive an alarm signal from a remote safety device which detects a safety condition; and

wherein the processor is also functionally connected to the receiver, and, in response to the receiver receiving the alarm signal, the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the first said communication, and, in response to the motion detector detecting motion, to cause the transmitter to perform at least one of transmitting the second said communication or ceasing transmission of the first said communication.

39. (Previously Presented) The alarm system of claim 34 wherein the safety detector detects at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, or seismic vibrations.

40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is at least one of an audible communication, a visual communication, a vibratory communication, or an olfactory scent.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the audible communication comprises an audible customized communication.

42. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is to awaken the person.

43. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is to alert the person to the safety condition.

44. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is to provide an instruction to the person.

45. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the second said communication is an audible customized communication transmitted in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

46. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 wherein the first said communication is an audible communication in the-a voice of a first person and the second said communication is an audible communication in the-a voice of a second person.

47. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to cease transmitting the first said communication and begin transmitting the second said communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to alternate transmitting the first said communication and the second said communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the transmitter comprises a speaker.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the system is portable.

51. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a memory, an input device for accepting a user command, and a sound input device for receiving an audible signal from the user; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing the received audible signal as an audible customized communication in the memory, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the audible customized communication as at least one of the first said communication and the second said communication.

52. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored audible communications, and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of an audible communication from the plurality of stored audible communications; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected audible communication as at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

53. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored names, and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of a name from the plurality of stored names; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected name as at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

54. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 34 and further comprising a voice synthesizer to generate a spoken message from a user command, an input device for accepting the user command, and a memory to store at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by causing the memory to store the at least one of the command and/or the generated message; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the generated message as at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

55. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 54 wherein the user command is a name, the voice synthesizer generates the name as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated name as at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

56. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 54 wherein the user command is an instruction to the person, the voice synthesizer generates the instruction as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated instruction as at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

57. (Currently Amended) An alarm system, comprising:

a motion detector to detect motion in a desired area;

a receiver to receive an alarm signal from a remote safety device which detects a safety condition;

a transmitter to transmit a communication to the a person in a form perceivable by the person; and

a processor functionally connected to the motion detector, the receiver and the transmitter, and, in response to the receiver receiving the alarm signal, to cause the transmitter to transmit a first said communication to the person in the form perceivable by the person, and, in response to the motion detector detecting motion, to cause the transmitter to perform at least one of transmitting a second said communication to the person in the form perceivable by the person or ceasing transmission of the first said communication.

58. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 57 wherein the transmitter transmits a tone for at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

59. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 57 wherein the transmitter transmits a plurality of tones for at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

60. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is at least one of an audible communication, a visual communication, a vibratory communication, or an olfactory scent.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, wherein the audible communication comprises an audible customized communication.

62. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is to awaken the person.

63. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is to alert the person to a safety problem.

64. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 wherein at least one of the first said communication or the second said communication is to provide an instruction to the person.

65. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit at least the first said communication if the received alarm signal corresponds to a predetermined signal.

66. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57, wherein the second said communication is an audible customized communication transmitted in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

67. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 wherein the first said communication is an audible communication in the voice of a first person and the second said communication is an audible communication in the voice of a second person.

68. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory, and wherein at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication is the stored audible communication is selected from a plurality of stored names in the memory.

69. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received alarm signal from a remote safety device as a stored signal in the memory, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the at least one said communication if a subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

70. (Previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the receiver comprises an acoustic transducer to receive the alarm signal.

71. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to cease transmitting the first said communication and to begin transmitting the second said communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

72. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to alternate transmitting the first said communication and the second said communication in response to the motion detector detecting motion.

73. (Previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the transmitter comprises a speaker.

74. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5760, wherein the visual communication comprises light.

75. (Previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the receiver is connected to the remote safety device by means other than via a cable.

76. (Previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the receiver is functionally connected to the remote safety device via a cable.

77. (Previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the system is portable.

78. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received audible signal as an audible customized communication in the memory, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the audible customized communication as at least one of the first said communication and/or the second said communication.

79. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 wherein the receiver receives the received audible signal.

80. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78 and further comprising a sound input device for receiving the received audible signal.

81. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received alarm signal in the memory, and wherein the processor responds to a subsequently received alarm signal by causing the transmitter to transmit the first said communication if the subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

82. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored audible communications and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of an audible communication from the plurality of stored audible communications as a customized selected audible communication; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected audible communication as the first said communication.

83. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a memory having a plurality of stored audible names, and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by accepting a user selection of a name from the plurality of stored audible names; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the selected name as at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

84. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 57 and further comprising a voice synthesizer to generate a spoken message from a user command, an input device for accepting the user command, and a memory to store at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by causing the memory to store the at least one of the command and the generated message; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the generated message as at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

85. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 84 wherein the user command is a name, the voice synthesizer generates the name as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated name as the at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

86. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 84 wherein the user command is an instruction to the person, the voice synthesizer generates the instruction as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated instruction as the at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication.

87. (Currently Amended) A method for responding to a safety condition, comprising the steps of:

monitoring for a safety condition;

if the safety condition is detected then transmitting a first communication to a person in a form perceivable by the person;

monitoring for motion by the person; and

if the motion is detected then performing at least one of transmitting a second communication to the person in the form perceivable by the person or ceasing transmission of the first said communication.

88. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication includes the name of the person.

89. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 87 wherein at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication comprises a tone.

90. (Currently Amended) The alarm system of claim 87 wherein at least one of the first said communication and-or the second said communication comprises a plurality of tones.

91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring for at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, seismic vibrations, or an alarm signal from a remote safety device.

92. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting at least one of an audible communication, a visual communication, a vibratory communication, or an olfactory scent.

93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting a customized audible communication.

94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting a communication to awaken the person.

95. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first said communication and-or the step of transmitting the second said communication comprises transmitting a communication to alert the person to the safety condition.

96. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first said communication and/or the step of transmitting the second said communication comprises providing an instruction to the person.

97. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 and, if the motion is detected, then ceasing transmittal of the first said communication.

98. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 and, if the motion is detected, then alternating transmittal of the first said communication and the second said communication.

99. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting an audible communication and storing the audible communication as a customized audible communication; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and/or the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the customized audible communication.

100. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting a user selection of an audible communication from a plurality of stored audible communications as a customized selected audible communication; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and/or the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the customized selected audible communication.

101. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting a user selection of a name from a plurality of stored audible names; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and-or the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the selected name.

102. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring for an alarm signal from a remote safety device and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command from a user and, if the command is detected, then accepting a received alarm signal and storing the received alarm signal; and transmitting the first communication if a subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

103. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 87 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command to generate a voice-synthesized message; and

wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and-or the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the synthesized message.

104. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 103 wherein the user command is a name, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and-or the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the synthesized name.

105. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 103 wherein the user command is an instruction, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the first communication and-or the step of transmitting the second communication comprises transmitting the synthesized instruction.

106. (Currently Amended) A method for responding to a safety condition, comprising the steps of:

monitoring for a safety condition;
if the safety condition is detected then transmitting a communication in a first voice to a person in a form perceptible by the person; and
transmitting a communication in a second voice to the person in the form perceptible by the person.

107. (Previously presented) The method of claim 106 and further comprising ceasing transmission of the communication in the first voice before the transmission of the communication in a second voice is begun.

108. (Previously presented) The method of claim 106 wherein the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice are alternately transmitted.

109. (Previously presented) The method of claim 106 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring for at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, seismic vibrations, or an alarm signal from a remote safety device.

110. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and/or the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the name of the person.

111. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and/or the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting a customized audible communication.

112. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and/or the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice is to awaken the person.

113. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice andor the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice is to alert the person.

114. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106 wherein at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice andor the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice is to provide an instruction to the person.

115. (Previously presented) The method of claim 106 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting an audible communication and storing the audible communication as the communication in the first voice.

116. (Previously presented) The method of claim 106 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting an audible communication and storing the audible communication as the communication in the second voice.

117. (Previously presented) The method of claim 106 wherein the step of monitoring for a safety condition comprises monitoring an alarm signal from a remote safety device and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command and, if the command is detected, then accepting a received alarm signal and storing the received alarm signal; and transmitting the communication in the first voice if a subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

118. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 106 and, prior to the step of monitoring for a safety condition, further comprising the steps of monitoring for a user command to generate a voice-synthesized message in at least one of the first voice and/or the second voice; and

wherein the at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and/or the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the synthesized message.

119. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 118 wherein the user command is a name, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and/or the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the synthesized name.

120. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 118 wherein the user command is an instruction, and the at least one of the step of transmitting the communication in the first voice and/or the step of transmitting the communication in the second voice comprises transmitting the synthesized instruction.

121. (Currently Amended) An alarm system, comprising:

a safety detector to detect a safety condition;

a transmitter to transmit a communication to a person in a form perceivable by the person;

and

a processor functionally connected to ~~the motion detector~~, the safety detector and the transmitter, and, in response to the safety detector detecting the safety condition, to cause the transmitter to transmit a said communication in a first voice to the person in the form perceivable by the person and then to transmit a said communication in a second voice to the person in the form perceivable by the person.

122. (Previously presented) The alarm system of claim 121 wherein the safety detector detects at least one of smoke, heat, carbon monoxide, radon gas, seismic vibrations, or an alarm signal from a remote safety device.

123. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121 wherein at least one of the communication in the first voice or the communication in the second voice is to awaken the person.

124. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121 wherein at least one of the communication in the first voice or the communication in the second voice is to alert the person to the safety condition.

125. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121 wherein at least one of the communication in the first voice or the communication in the second voice is to provide an instruction to the person.

126. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to cease transmitting the communication in the first voice and begin transmitting the second communication in the second voice.

127. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121, wherein the processor causes the transmitter to alternate transmitting the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice.

128. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121, wherein the transmitter comprises a speaker.

129. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121, wherein the system is portable.

130. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received audible signal, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the stored audible signal as the communication in the first voice.

131. (Previously presented) The system of claim 130 and further comprising a sound input device for receiving the received audible signal.

132. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a memory and an input device for accepting a user command; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing a received audible signal, and wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the stored audible signal as the communication in the second voice.

133. (Previously presented) The system of claim 132 and further comprising a sound input device for receiving the received audible signal.

134. (Previously presented) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a memory, an input device for accepting a user command, and a sound input device for receiving an alarm signal from the remote safety device; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by storing the received alarm signal in the memory, and wherein the processor responds to a subsequently received alarm signal by causing the transmitter to transmit the communication in the first voice if the subsequently received alarm signal corresponds to the stored alarm signal.

135. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 121 and further comprising a voice synthesizer to generate a spoken message in at least one of the first voice and-or the second voice from a user command, an input device for accepting the user command, and a memory to store at least one of the command and-or the generated message; and

wherein the processor responds to the command by causing the memory to store the at least one of the command and-or the generated message; and

wherein the processor causes the transmitter to transmit the generated message as at least one of the communication in the first voice and-or the communication in the second voice.

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136. (Previously presented) The system of claim 135 wherein the user command is a name, the voice synthesizer generates the name as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated name as the at least one of the communication in the first voice and the communication in the second voice.

137. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 135 wherein the user command is an instruction to the person, the voice synthesizer generates the instruction as the spoken message, and the transmitter transmits the generated instruction as the at least one of the communication in the first voice and-or the communication in the second voice.